

# VINITA DAILY CHIEFTAIN.

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VINITA, OKLAHOMA, MONDAY, APRIL 4, 1910

FIVE CENTS PER COPY

## ORDER TIES UP \$8,000,000 TAXES

Practically All 1908 And 1909 Assessments Are Resisted And Contested.

Guthrie, Okla., April 4.—"At the present time \$8,000,000 or more in taxes, levied and justly due the state and its local divisions for 1908 and 1909, are being withheld, or are restrained of collection and disbursement, by suits in the federal courts filed by the railroads and other large corporations." is an excerpt from a public statement issued today by State Auditor M. E. Trapp, to state and local public officers.

The statement follows the filing here last night of suits by the Frisco and Katy resisting portions of 1909 taxes, in eight counties and by 16 suits filed in the United States circuit court here today by the Santa Fe, resisting payment of \$11,078 taxes in Garfield, Cleveland, Alfalfa, Oklahoma, Lincoln, Osage, Pottawatomie, Ellis, Grant, Woods, Kay, Payne, Noble, Wood, Logan and Pawnee counties. The 24 suits, filed within 24 hours, tie up more than a million dollars of 1909 taxes in 24 counties alone, and attack as absolutely illegal \$159,921 of taxes in these counties, and also attack as illegal the state quarter mill levy for common schools, which makes \$217,000 more.

Similar suits will follow other counties, and the Rock Island and other railroads will join in the anti-taxation fight. In the eastern district similar suits were filed at Muskogee, March 31, and it is estimated on a conservative basis that probably \$1,000,000 of taxes is already being attacked as illegal, of the 1909 tax, and though the railroads are offering partial payments, practically the entire taxes due by railroads from 1909 will be tied up pending termination of the suits.

Practically all of the railroads, also the Pullman and Western Union companies are resisting payment of a large portion of their 1908 taxes, due a year ago, with the result that several million dollars of 1908 taxes are still unpaid or unavailable. The 1908 tax cases have been pending in the federal courts more than a year. In addition to the cases involving ad valorem taxes, practically all of the large public service corporations of which the railroads are chief, are resisting the gross revenue tax for 1908.

Judge Cottrell of the federal court issued temporary injunctions in the cases filed here today and last night restraining the local officers from collecting the disputed taxes, and granting a hearing April 15.

### The School Board.

The report or rumor that any member of the present Vinita Board of Education has ever been opposed to the immediate building of a high school building in Vinita is erroneous. The records of the board will disclose to any one who cares to examine them that all the members have always voted for every motion which had for its purpose the early erection of such a building. The delay has been due to the fact that the money has not been received for the bonds voted and this is the sole cause of such delay.

F. S. E. AMOS,  
THOS. H. BYRD,  
SEYMOUR RIDDLE,  
W. H. DECK,  
DAVIS HILL,  
L. B. BELL,  
C. YORK.

### Bank of Stuart Robbed.

McAlester, Okla., April 4.—The bank of Stuart was entered by robbers last night, who blew open the safe and took twenty-two hundred dollars.

### Vetoes Anti-Dispensary Bill.

By Associated Press.

Guthrie, Okla., April 4.—Governor Haskell today vetoed the bill, abolishing the state dispensary. The governor said the bill contained a "joker" that gave free rein to liquor dealers. He also said he believed the bill unconstitutional.

### KING VICTOR EMANUEL

#### RECEIVES ROOSEVELT

By Associated Press.

Rome Italy, April 4.—King Victor Emanuel received Col. Roosevelt at the curial today. The distinguished guest was escorted to the king's apartment, which when thrown open revealed his majesty standing with arms outstretched and with a smile upon his lips. King Victor Emanuel and Roosevelt shook hands heartily. The monarch inviting the former president to sit at his side. The door of the apartment then was closed and the two remained in private conversation for about forty-five minutes.

## CONTRACT SENT TO CHICAGO OFFICE

Commercial Club Will Undertake to Get Walters to Accept Notes—Will Offer Guaranty.

On Saturday was forwarded to Clarence Walters, vice president of the Osage Western railroad, at his offices in Chicago, a form of the contract to be signed by the company and the five cashiers of the banks of this city and a form of the guaranty, which the Commercial Club will undertake to make for the Osage Western railroad. There was also forwarded a lengthy statement showing that at least ninety per cent of the notes for the Osage Western are good, and that it is the opinion of the Commercial club that it would be more satisfactory and profitable to the company to accept these notes in lieu of the guaranty, and urging a conference with Mr. Walters before he makes his final decision not to accept the notes.

## IMPROVEMENTS URGED FOR CITY HALL BUILDING

In view of the fact that the Commercial Club pays no rent, and that it can use quarters that can be arranged for it in connection with the city hall, it has been suggested that the hall recently vacated by the Elks be utilized by both the city and the Commercial Club, and the corner room, now occupied by the Commercial Club and the library association might be rented so as to yield the city a very substantial revenue.

A coat of paint is also much needed for the porches of the city hall building. By draining the basement, by making proper connections with the sewer that is to be connected with the new Harvey eating house, which is to be much lower than the sewer connecting with the Frisco station, it would make the basement sanitary and desirable for occupancy.

### Burden to Interstate Commerce.

By Associated Press.

Washington, D. C., April 4.—Holding that the action of the state of Arkansas, requiring railroads to furnish cars for local shipments within five days from the time they were ordered, was a burden on interstate commerce, the supreme court of the United States today reversed the decision of the supreme court of Arkansas.

## TAFT ADMINISTRATION WILL FIGHT IN ITS OWN DEFENSE

**At Last Convinced That Attacks Have Made Impression on Public Mind—Will Begin Next Saturday at Washington—Republican Leaders are Greatly Interested—Silent on Cannonism—Speaker May Resign at Close of Session.**

Washington, April 4.—The Taft administration is about to defend itself aggressively before the people of the United States. Convinced that the public mind has been impressed by attacks of various kinds upon the administration in many parts of the country, and that the criticisms cannot be permitted to pass unanswered without injury to republican prestige, the party leaders have decided to "carry the war into the enemy's country." President Taft is now declared to be ready and anxious to assume the offensive.

The opening guns will be fired next Saturday in Washington by the president in person, and in Chicago by Attorney General Wickersham.

Mr. Taft will speak in this city on the subject of Organization and he will be supported by other powerful orators of the republican party. Attorney General Wickersham's subject will be The Policies of the Administration. The speeches by the president in Washington, Senator Lodge, Representative McKinley of Illinois, chairman of the republican congressional committee; Representative Duncan McKinlay of California; John Hays Hammond, president of the national league of republican clubs; John A. Stewart, president of the New York league, and John G. Capers, national committeeman for South Carolina at the same gathering, and that of Mr. Wickersham at Chicago, are expected to supply the themes for other prominent republicans.

Nothing has created so much interest among the republican leaders in Washington since the inauguration of Mr. Taft as the plans now formulating to defend the administration. Some facts are to be brought out about the operation of the Payne-Aldrich tariff bill and the enemies of that legislation will be called upon to answer the friends of the administration with some concrete evidence if this subject is to continue as an issue within the party. The party, it is said, expects confidently to close the session of congress with interstate commerce, statehood, postal savings, anti-injunctions and conservation legislation to its credit. In addition, it is hoped that a statement may be issued showing that a very great saving has been made in the expense of carrying on the government business.

Little is being said by the party leaders about the issue of "Cannonism" beyond the statement that this question will take care of itself at the right time. The only explanation vouchsafed for this comment, is that Speaker Cannon is expected to resign the speakership at the close of the present session of congress.

Should the speaker resign at the close of the present session, at a time when there would be no opportunity to choose his successor before next winter, it is argued that several members of the present house would benefit by immediately announcing themselves as candidates. No official statement on this subject is expected from the speaker. His friends believe that it would be inadvisable for him to weaken the organization of the house at this time by disclosing his intentions. They argue that in view of the recent battle in the house all the force that was retained by the republican majority is needed if the administration programme as to legislation is to succeed.

There are rumors circulated with considerable freedom about the capitol, that before the congressional elections some changes may be expected in the president's cabinet, but none of these stories can be confirmed.

Among the retirements most frequently mentioned as possible, are those of Secretary Dickinson, of the war department and Postmaster Gen-

eral Hitchcock. Also, it is stated that Mr. Ballinger may resign from the interior department after the present investigation, if the change can be made without subjecting himself to the charge of "retiring under fire."

No one in the confidence of President Taft, it is said, would be surprised if the vacancy on the supreme court bench, caused by the death of the late Justice Brewer, should be offered to Gov. Hughes of New York. That the president would offer the place to the New York executive was stated last night at a gathering of republicans, several of whom are close to the president. It was stated that Governor Hughes had not been sounded on the subject, but the general opinion seemed to be that he would not accept the place. It is generally expected here that the event will find the appointment going to Solicitor General Lloyd W. Bowers.

What will Roosevelt do when he returns to the United States?"

## SUGGESTION FOR DINNER ACCEPTED

First of Series of Dinners And Social Gatherings Next Monday at Congregational Church.

Rev. J. E. Pershing, adopting the suggestion made in Thursday's Chieftain, has tendered the use of the First Congregational church and parlors for the first dinner and social gathering, therein outlined, and the ladies of the church will prepare an excellent dinner which will be served at 6:30 p. m., on next Monday, April 11. Ladies and gentlemen, regardless of their church affiliations, who desire to form closer social relations with the other citizens of the town, are invited. It is expected that not less than fifty couples will attend, and preparations for more will be made.

Representatives of the Civic Club and library association will be invited to inform the gathering as to the progress made, and other matters will be discussed informally while the dinner is being served and after it is finished.

Every effort will be made to make these gatherings permanent, and the other churches will be expected to act as hosts from time to time.

### Students Drink Poison.

By Associated Press.

Guthrie, Okla., April 4.—Six students at Armstrong academy, the Choctaw tribal school for boys, in McCurtain county, drank wood alcohol and Charles Wallace, of Hugo, Jesse Tonika, of Eagletown, and Webster Thomas, of Valiant, died.

## TREASURER WILL BEGIN WRITING CHECKS AT ONCE

Washington, D. C., April 4. The comptroller treasury rendered decision today on preliminary matters connected with Eastern Cherokees payment and actual writing of checks will begin at once.

T. P. GORE.

### Convict Attempts Suicide.

By Associated Press.

Leavenworth, Kans., April 4.—Joseph Endsly, of Newport, Ark., a counterfeiter, who is serving a sentence in the federal prison here, attempted suicide in his cell last night, using a rope made from his clothing. The night watch cut him down before life was extinct.

## BEGINS RETALIATION ON OKLAHOMA RAILROADS

By Associated Press.

Guthrie, Okla., April 4.—As a part of the retaliation program against the Oklahoma railroads, for their attack upon Oklahoma's two-cent passenger intrastate carload freight rates, the state corporation commission today issued a proposed general order, making a reduction of nineteen to thirty-six per cent in the present freight rates. The proposed rates include all classified freight except live stock. A hearing on the new schedule is set for April 28.

## OKLAHOMA TOWNS HOLD ELECTIONS

Campaign in Vinita Has Attracted Little Attention, Probably on Account of Being "Off Year."

### DEMOCRATIC TICKET.

#### FIRST WARD

For Alderman—

J. H. WIMER

For School Board—

MARSHALL STEVENS

#### SECOND WARD

For Alderman—

J. S. MARTIN

For School Board—

DAVIS HILL

#### THIRD WARD

For Alderman—

J. C. STARR

For School Board—

F. S. E. AMOS

#### FOURTH WARD

For Alderman—

F. M. LEWIS

For School Board—

L. R. SCOTT

Tomorrow in all of the incorporated towns and cities in Oklahoma the "off year" spring elections will be held.

In nearly all of the towns the campaign has been carried on with little interest. In some, however, the fight has been hot. At Tulsa a conflict is on between the adherents of the commission form of government and the democrats, who opposed the charter. The campaign at Muskogee is devoid of anything to cause a fight.

In Vinita the campaign has had little interest. The only officers to be elected are one member of the council and one member of the school board from each ward. Both democrats and republicans have a ticket in the field, and it is possible for the political complexion of the city council to be changed.

At tomorrow's election the proposed extension of the franchise of the Vinita Electric Light, Ice & Power company will also be voted upon, under the provisions of the referendum act.

## NATIONAL BANK FEES INCREASE STATE REVENUE

Guthrie, Okla., April 4.—Bank Commissioner A. M. Young has made his quarterly settlement with State Treasurer James A. Mehefee, treasurer of the state banking board, turning over to him \$6,845 in fees collected by the bank commissioner's office for the examination of state and national banks during the last three months. The fact that national banks which desire to be approved as reserve agents must now be examined by the state bank examiners has added materially to the revenues of that office.

### Steamer Crushes British Ship.

By Associated Press.

Falmouth, England, April 4.—The four masted British ship Kate Thomas early today, was run down and sunk by an unknown steamer. The captain and mates with their wives and fifteen of the crew were drowned. The only survivor was the ship's apprentice, who was picked up by a tug.

## TO HEAR HASKELL CASE AT TULSA

April Term of Federal Court For Eastern District Opens at Tulsa—Town Lot Cases Set For May 4.

Tulsa, Okla., April 4.—This morning at ten o'clock Judge Ralph Campbell, of the United States court for the eastern district of Oklahoma, opened a term of court here that will in all probability become epochal in the history of Oklahoma. The cases of Governor Charles N. Haskell and five other prominent citizens of Muskogee charged with defrauding the Creek Indians in town lot transactions, are docketed for trial at this term.

Judge Campbell, it is understood will hold court not longer than Wednesday, and only for the purpose of hearing motions in routine cases. On April 18th the regular docket will be taken up, probably before Judge Pollock, the somewhat noted Kansas jurist.

The townlot cases are set down for hearing May 4, at which time Judge John A. Marshall (of Salt Lake, Utah, will be on the bench. Judge Marshall has presided in this district on each occasion heretofore when the town lot cases were being considered. A year ago he was on the bench during the Tulsa term and sustained the defendants' motion to quash the indictments returned by the Muskogee grand jury at the January term. He returned to Tulsa a few weeks later and charged the special grand jury summoned to consider the town lot cases, and received the indictments returned by that jury. It was during this term of court that Judge Gregg, the United States attorney created a sensation by filing a motion charging that improper influences were being brought to bear on the grand jury and asking the court to discharge the jury and order a new jury empaneled. This was done and the second grand jury returned indictments.

The defendants filed motions to quash the new indictments alleging many sensational grounds therefore. These motions came on for hearing at the October term of court at Ardmore and Judge Marshall was again on the bench. After a week of oral argument in which some of the ablest attorneys of the state appeared for the defense, Judge Marshall overruled all motions and left the following Saturday for his Utah home without setting the cases for hearing.

At the January term of court at Muskogee this year the defendants announced ready for trial, but Judge Marshall was unable to be present and the cases went over. A few weeks ago Judge Marshall fixed May 4th as the date for trial and all parties in interest notified.

The government immediately filed its list of witnesses and it is understood that they have been subpoenaed to appear in Tulsa on the date fixed. The witnesses are for the most part from eastern and northern states, about 125 in number, not "one thousand" as some have made it appear. The fact that they have been notified to be on hand is proof conclusive that the government expects to go to trial on that date. A recent story sent out from Guthrie stated that the defense would get a continuance for a year, but in view of the fact that the defense has already once announced its readiness for trial this story can hardly be accepted as accurate.

For the government the case will be in the hands of Judge William Gregg, United States attorney for this district, assisted by Bayard T. Hainer, of this city, and formerly on the federal bench in Oklahoma Territory, and Sylvester Rush, of Omaha, Nebraska, special assistant attorney general. Henry Asp, for years general attorney for the Santa Fe railroad with headquarters at Guthrie, is the ranking attorney for the defense, buttressed by a score or more of well known attorneys from different sections of the state.

### Robbers Loot Texas Bank.

By Associated Press.

Oakwoods, Tex., April 4.—Robbers dynamited the safe of the Oakwoods state bank, early today, securing five thousand dollars and making their escape. A posse is in pursuit.

### Last of Grant's Cabinet.

Portland, Ore., April 4.—Judge George H. Williams, the last surviving member of President Grant's cabinet died today.

**MILFORD-BERGER SHOE COMPANY.**

**Hosiery Department**

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